

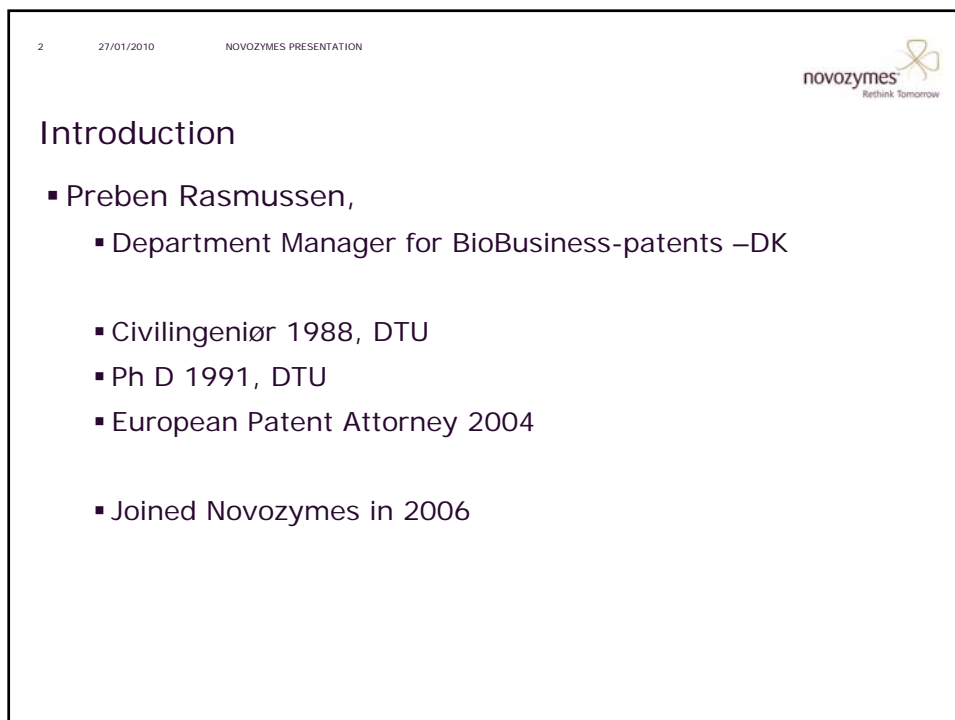
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Rethink Tomorrow

Acquiring technology/IP from academia

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27/01/2010

2 27/01/2010 NOVOZYMES PRESENTATION



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Rethink Tomorrow

Introduction

- Preben Rasmussen,
 - Department Manager for BioBusiness-patents –DK
 - Civilingeniør 1988, DTU
 - Ph D 1991, DTU
 - European Patent Attorney 2004
- Joined Novozymes in 2006

Introduction

- Novozymes is the World leader in Bioinnovation
 - World largest producer of industrial enzymes
 - Provides enzymes, ingredients to biopharmaceutical industry, microorganisms and biosolutions
 - Headquarter in Bagsværd, Denmark

- Have more than 1,000 patent families
 - (a patent family is a group of patents and patent applications having same priority application)

Acquiring technology /IP from academia

- General schedule
 - Primary contact
 - Often R&D makes first contact
 - Business consideration
 - Do we believe that the technology/IP generates value in our set up?
 - Patent evaluation
 - Performed by inhouse patent attorney
 - Agreement

Primary contact

- We contact academia
 - Contacts via scientific meetings or publications
 - R&D contacting academia
- Academia contacts us
 - R&D evaluates the technology
 - In existing areas
 - Potential for new areas

Initial considerations

- R&D:
 - Does the technology/IP fit into our technology
 - How much R&D effort must we provide to develop the technology/IP to enter the market?
- Business
 - Can we see a business model where the new technology creates a revenue?

Patent evaluation the application as such

- Evaluating the technology
 - Is the technology patentable?
 - Who has the right to the invention?

- Evaluating an optional patent application
 - Is it valid?
 - Is the application thoroughly drafted?
 - Is the invention broadly exemplified?
 - Is the country selection satisfactory for our needs?
 - When was the application filed, and has the technology been published?

Patent evaluation Freedom to operate

- Freedom to operate analysis
 - Search for third party patent and applications
 - National rights must be considered in each jurisdiction

 - Evaluate retrieved documents
 - Evaluate scope of found patents
 - Evaluate possible scope for identified patent applications
 - Consider validity of found patent rights

 - Conclude
 - We can practise the offered technology
 - We can not practise the technology
 - Can we get license to blocking patent rights?

Agreement

- Acquiring patent rights
 - Gives us the full control of the technology

- License agreement
 - Exclusive or not
 - May contain prosecution clause

- Co-development agreement
 - Often desirable a for non-mature technology
 - We prefer to patent inventions created during the cooperation

Potential problems

Ownership

- Who owns the invention:
 - University
 - students

- Which rights can we get and which rights will the university keep
 - We prefer to have all commercial rights to the invention
 - What can the university do with the technology?
 - Can the university use the technology in cooperations with other parties?

Potential problems Publications

- Inherent dilemma: Academia wishes to publish; we prefer to wait to publish until the patent application has been published:

- General patenting time line
 - 0 Month – filing of priority application
 - 0-12 Month – optional additional priority applications
 - 12 Months – filing PCT application comprising content of priority applications and added subject matter
 - 18 Months – PCT application is published

Potential problems Publications

- Consequence of publication:
 - Prior to Priority filing: no valid patent in many jurisdictions
 - 0-12 Months: publication is prior art for subject matter added in PCT application
 - 12-18 Months: we can not withdraw a pending patent application before publication and refile to obtain a later priority date.

- Possible compromise:
 - No publications allowed before filing of PCT application
 - Scientists notify us of an invention and allows us 2-6 months to file patent application covering the invention whereafter it can be published

Potential problems valuation of an invention

- The value of an invention depend on the additional revenue generated by implementing the invention
- The value of an invention depends on many factors including:
 - Revenue of expected sale
 - Maturity of invention
 - Time to marketing
 - Likelihood of succes

Value of an invention

- Revenue
 - New market
 - Sale expectations based on market analysis and business models
 - High costs connected with developping new market
 - High risk
 - Existing market
 - Sales expectations based on known market size
 - Lost sale of existing products
 - Lower risk
- New process
 - Cost reduction can be calculated based on existing sales

Value of an invention Maturity of an invention

- We practically never find technology ready to be marketed

- Before marketing we need to do additional research/development:
 - Expression studies
 - Production
 - Application studies

- The value depends on how much research/development we must do before the technology can be marketed.

Value of an invention Other considerations

- Time to commercialization

- Likelihood of success

- These factors may affect the value or the structure of payment for an invention

Structure of payments

- Up-front payment
 - Less attractive if the likelihood of success is low or the time until commercialization is long

- Milestone payments
 - Specified payments when certain technical or commercial goals are achieved such as expression in microorganism, registration of product, first commercial sale
 - Attractive if technical challenges are foreseen

- Royalty
 - e.g. payment of a percentage of sale

Questions?